AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for ~~modulating~~ increasing the heme oxygenase level in cells of ~~a transplant organ~~ an organ transplant, comprising:

   contacting cells of ~~a transplant organ~~ an organ transplan with a viral vector encoding a polypeptide having heme oxygenase activity, wherein said viral vector comprises a nucleic acid having at least 80% sequence identity to nucleotides 81-944 of the human heme oxygenase-I nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,

   whereby the heme oxygenase level is increased.

2. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid comprises nucleotides 81-944 of the human heme oxygenase-I nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

3. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein said contacting is *ex vivo*.

4. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein said contacting is *in vivo*.

5. **(Currently amended)** The method of Claim 1, wherein said ~~organ transplant~~ organ transplant is an allograft.

6. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein said allograft is a heart.

7. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein said allograft is a liver.

8. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein said allograft is a kidney.

9. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein said contacting is prior to transplantation of said organ.

10. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein said contacting is subsequent to transplantation of said organ.

11. **(Currently amended)** The method of Claim 1, wherein said contacting is by direct injection of said viral vector into said ~~transplant organ~~ organ transplant .

12. **(Currently amended)** A method for ~~modulating~~ increasing the heme oxygenase level in cells of an organ transplant, comprising:

contacting cells of an organ transplant with an adenoviral vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide with at least 80% amino acid sequence identity with the human heme oxygenase-I encoded by nucleotides 81-944 of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said polypeptide has heme-oxygenase activity, and

whereby ~~level~~the level of heme oxygenase is increased.

13. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said polypeptide comprises human heme oxygenase encoded by nucleotides 81-944 of the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO:1.

14. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said contacting is *ex vivo*.

15. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said contacting is *in vivo*.

16. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said organ transplant is an allograft.

17. **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, wherein said allograft is a heart.

18. **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, wherein said allograft is a liver.

19. **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, wherein said allograft is a kidney.

20. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said contacting is prior to transplantation of said organ.

21. **(Original)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said contacting is subsequent to transplantation of said organ.

22. **(Currently amended)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said contacting is by direct injection of said ~~viral~~ adenoviral vector into said organ.